



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435
www.mvk.usace.army.mil



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	RHW-MVK-2008-310
EVALUATOR:	Ramona H. Warren
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DATE:	November 19, 2008
EXPIRATION DATE:	December 19, 2008

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District is considering a proposal to establish the Ballard Bayou Mitigation bank in Caldwell Parish, Louisiana. A prospectus has been received describing the proposed bank from the Ouachita River Holdings, LLC, the bank Sponsor. The proposed site is located in sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, Township 15 North, Range 3 East, latitude 32°14'30.24" N and longitude -92°07'14.14" W, Caldwell Parish, Louisiana as shown on the attached map (enclosure 1 & 2).

Description: This wetland mitigation bank is being proposed by the bank Sponsor as a means to meet the requirements for compensatory mitigation for future and as yet unknown wetland losses, which may be permitted by the Corps under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The proposed tract is approximately 143 acres. The bank sponsor proposes to restore 143 acres of bottomland hardwood forested wetlands. The restoration and enhancement of this 143-acre tract will increase wetland functions, provide species diversity, and increase the width of wildlife corridor along the Coldwater River.

Baseline Conditions / Current Land Use / Proposed Actions:

The proposed property is bordered by the Ouachita River. The source of hydrology is mainly rainfall and sheet flow from adjacent properties. Occasionally the site is likely flooded by water from Ballard Bayou, which is located to the north of the project area. Presently the site is managed for row-crop agriculture and is currently planted in wheat. The entire site is classified as prior-converted wetlands (encl. 3) by the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Surrounding vegetation consists of overcup oak, nuttall oak,

hackberry, honey locust, bitter pecan and sweet pecan. The majority of soil on the site is listed as Perry clay, a hydric soil.

The banker proposes to establish a total of 143 acres of bottomland hardwood forested wetland. Reforestation of 143 acres of open field/ shrub wetland would be planted with a mixture of overcup oak, water oak, nuttall oak, overcup oak, water hickory, persimmon, bald cypress, sweet pecan, sugarberry, red mulberry, and green ash at 12-foot by 12-foot spacing yielding approximately 302 seedlings per acre. The proposed surface hydrology restoration includes plugging the man-made drainage ditches as necessary to re-establish hydrology to the site (encl. 4).

The physical location of the proposed bank is approximately 12 miles north of Columbia and 23 miles south of Monroe. The site is approximately 1.6 miles west of U.S.165 South Blankston Road.


Service Area: This Mitigation Bank would be established to provide mitigation to compensate for impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, within the Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District. This area is demarcated by the United States Geologic Survey as hydrologic unit code 08050001 which includes portions of Caldwell, Richland, Morehouse, West Carroll, and Franklin Parishes (enclosure 5). Decisions authorizing the use of credits from the Mitigation Bank will be made by the appropriate authority on a case-by-case basis in accordance with all applicable requirements.

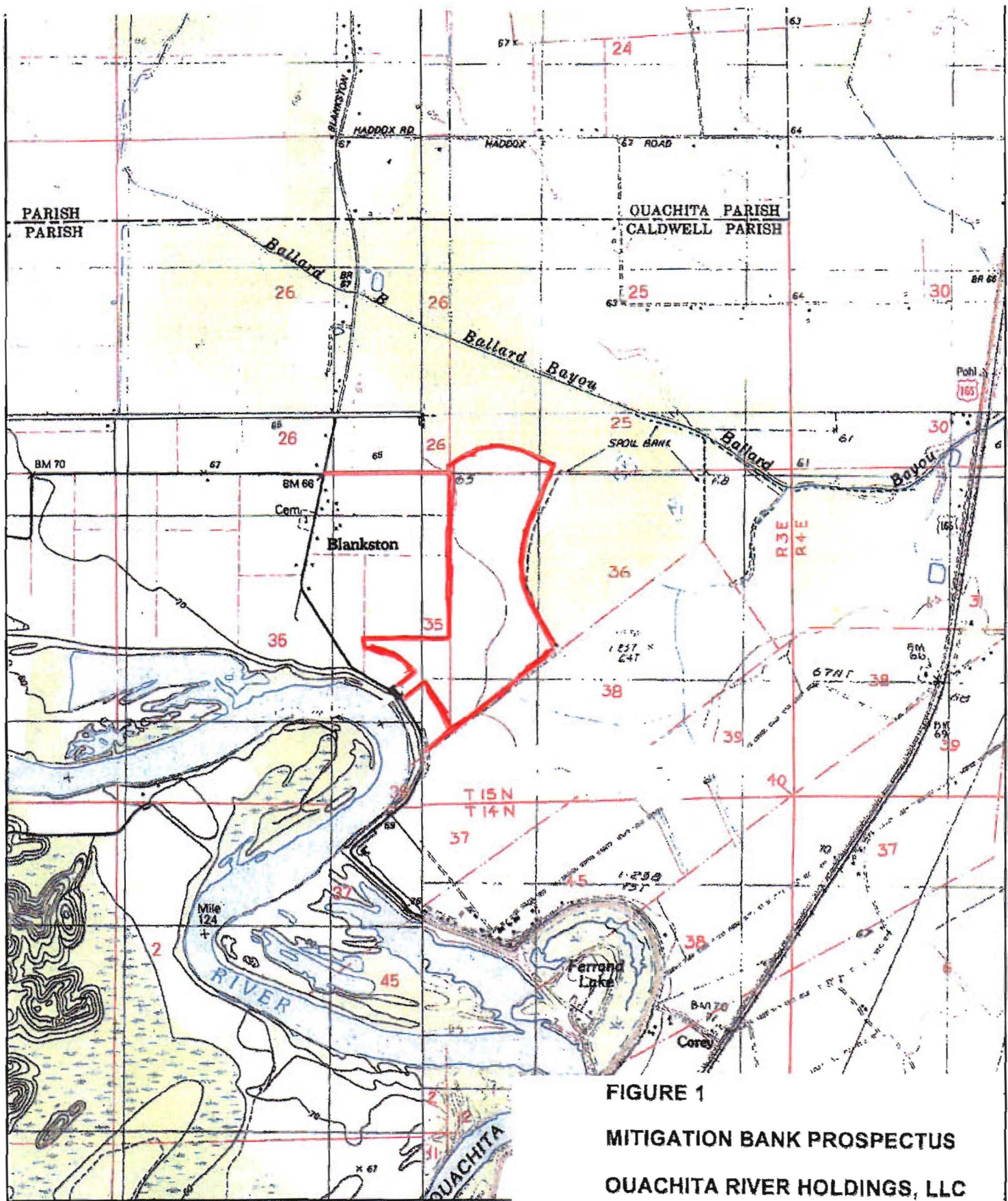
The prospectus, which outlines the conceptual plan for the bank, is available for review at the Vicksburg District, Corps of Engineers at the address given below.

Comments on this proposed mitigation bank may be provided to the Corps at the address below. Comments should be received no later than the expiration date of this public notice.

Please provide comments to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Vicksburg District
ATTN: CEMVK-OD-F
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3485


Anne S. Woerner
Chief, Evaluation Section



Name: RIVERTON
 Date: 7/5/2007
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

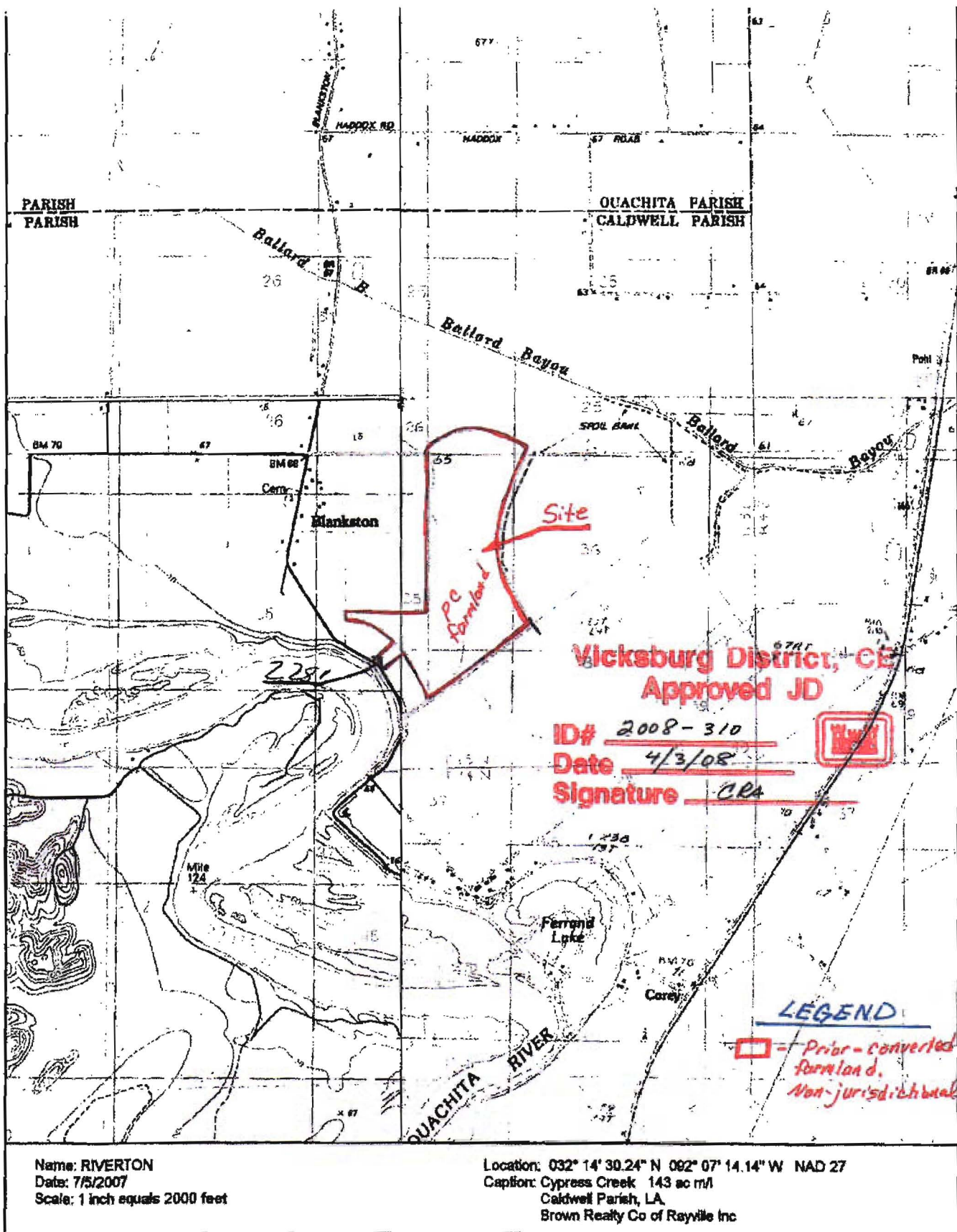
FIGURE 1
MITIGATION BANK PROSPECTUS
OUACHITA RIVER HOLDINGS, LLC
BALLARD BAYOU MITIGATION BANK
CALDWELL PARISH, LOUISIANA

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This information is believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Interested parties should verify all information to their satisfaction

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
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This information is believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Interested parties should verify all information to their satisfaction.

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Legend

-  Food Plots
-  Wetland Restoration



Ouachita River Holdings, LLC
Ballard Bayou Mitigation Bank
Caldwell Parish, LA

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Quachita River Holdings, LLC Site

Watershed Map

Primary Service Area

FIGURE 3

MITIGATION BANK PROSPECTUS

OUACHITA RIVER HOLDINGS, LLC

BALLARD BAYOU MITIGATION BANK

CALDWELL PARISH, LOUISIANA

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